BLACKBIRD FOR TRAINING

The Program of Defense Procurement Management

14 December 2026 – 1 January 2027
Berlin (Germany)



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Introduction

Defence procurement is a complex and strategic process aimed at acquiring military equipment, technology, and services to ensure the readiness and effectiveness of armed forces. In light of global security and economic challenges, procurement management has become crucial for making informed and sustainable decisions.

This comprehensive 3-week training program is designed to provide participants with an in-depth understanding of the Defence procurement process, from requirements assessment to contract management. The program focuses on developing strategies that enhance quality, security, and financial efficiency by exploring procurement risks, compliance, international Defence trade, and the latest practices in the Defence sector.

Through a combination of theoretical concepts, practical exercises, case studies, simulation activities, and a final capstone project, participants will develop the knowledge and practical skills required to manage complex Defence procurement activities effectively.

Course Objectives

- Introduce the principles, challenges, and importance of Defence procurement management, including a clear understanding of what procurement is and its role in Defence operations.
- Provide a comprehensive understanding of Defence procurement policies, regulations, and best practices to ensure informed decision-making.
- Equip participants with the skills to assess military requirements, develop procurement strategies, and manage contracts effectively.
- Enhance the ability to ensure cost-effective procurement while maintaining quality and security, balancing financial constraints with operational needs.
- Enable participants to navigate the complexities of international Defence trade and collaboration, understanding the global landscape.
- Develop capabilities in procurement risk management, compliance, auditing, and quality assurance.
- Introduce advanced procurement strategies, innovation, emerging technologies, and future trends affecting Defence procurement.
- Foster a collaborative learning environment, encouraging participants to exchange experiences, insights, and ideas for mutual growth.
- Apply acquired knowledge through practical exercises, case studies, simulations, and a final capstone project.



Course Outlines

Day 1: Introduction to Defence Procurement Management

- Understanding what procurement is and its importance in the Defence sector.
- Overview of the Defence procurement process and its key stages.
- The role of procurement in Defence readiness and operational effectiveness.
- Key stakeholders involved in Defence procurement.
- Legal and ethical considerations in procurement management.
- Challenges and complexities of Defence procurement.

Day 2: Requirements Assessment and Procurement Planning

- Analysing military requirements and translating them into detailed specifications.
- Understanding operational needs and procurement requirements.
- Developing effective procurement plans and strategies.
- Prioritizing requirements according to operational and financial constraints.
- Linking requirements assessment with procurement objectives.
- Case Study**:** Identifying operational needs and defining procurement requirements.

Day 3: Defence Procurement Policies, Regulations and Compliance

- National and international Defence procurement regulations.
- Understanding procurement policies and regulatory frameworks.
- Export controls and arms trade treaties.
- Compliance requirements in Defence procurement.
- Ensuring transparency, accountability, and integrity in procurement management.
- Managing regulatory and legal risks.

Day 4: Procurement Methods and Source Selection

- Procurement methods: competitive bidding, direct procurement, collaboration, and other approaches.
- Developing source selection strategies.
- Supplier qualification and evaluation.
- Source selection criteria and evaluation processes.
- Decision-making in supplier selection.
- Supplier relationship management.
- Supplier risk assessment and due diligence.

Day 5: Contract Management and Negotiation



- Principles of effective contract management in Defence procurement.
- Types of Defence procurement contracts and their implications.
- Key contractual terms and conditions.
- Contract performance monitoring.
- Managing changes, variations, claims, and disputes.
- Negotiation skills for successful procurement agreements.
- Developing effective negotiation strategies.
- Practical contract negotiation exercise.

Day 6: Defence Procurement Budgeting and Cost Control

- Developing Defence procurement budgets and cost estimates.
- Understanding procurement cost structures.
- Cost analysis and financial evaluation.
- Tracking and controlling procurement expenditure.
- Managing budget constraints and financial risks.
- Ensuring value for money and cost-effectiveness.
- Balancing cost, quality, security, and operational requirements.

Day 7: Quality Assurance and Technical Evaluation

- Ensuring technical compliance and quality assurance in Defence procurement.
- Technical evaluation of suppliers and proposed solutions.
- Performance-based specifications.
- Quality control and inspection processes.
- Acceptance criteria and performance monitoring.
- Interoperability and compatibility of acquired assets.
- Managing technical risks and non-conformities.

Day 8: Defence Procurement Project Management

- Applying project management techniques to Defence procurement.
- Planning procurement projects and defining milestones.
- Tracking progress, milestones, and deliverables.
- Stakeholder coordination and communication.
- Managing delays, changes, and scope variations.
- Managing procurement project resources.
- Monitoring project performance and outcomes.

Day 9: Defence Industrial Base and Offset Programs



- Understanding the Defence industrial base.
- Developing and strengthening domestic Defence industrial capabilities.
- Understanding offset programs, their benefits, and challenges.
- Technology transfer and industrial participation.
- Economic, technological, and security considerations.
- Balancing national interests with procurement requirements.
- Case Study: Evaluating an industrial participation and offset strategy.

Day 10: Defence Procurement Ethics, Anti-Corruption and Risk Management

- Addressing ethical challenges in Defence procurement.
- Identifying corruption risks and conflicts of interest.
- Anti-corruption measures and supplier integrity.
- Promoting transparency and ethical conduct.
- Identifying and mitigating procurement risks.
- Risk assessment and prioritization.
- Contingency planning and risk response strategies.
- Case Study: Managing risks in a complex Defence acquisition project.

Day 11: International Defence Trade and Collaboration

- Collaborative Defence procurement and joint ventures.
- International partnerships and cross-border procurement challenges.
- International Defence trade frameworks.
- Export controls and international compliance.
- Security considerations in international procurement.
- Managing cross-border suppliers and contracts.
- Case Study: International Defence procurement collaboration.

Day 12: Advanced Procurement Strategies, Innovation and Future Trends

- Strategic sourcing and long-term procurement strategies.
- Advanced supplier management approaches.
- Leveraging technology and innovation in Defence procurement.
- Digital transformation of procurement processes.
- Emerging technologies and their impact on Defence procurement.
- Geopolitical and global trends shaping future procurement strategies.
- Adapting procurement approaches for future challenges.
- Case Study: Innovations in Defence procurement management.

Day 13: Procurement Compliance, Auditing and Project Evaluation



- Ensuring procurement compliance with regulations and standards.
- Internal and external auditing of procurement processes.
- Preparing for procurement audits.
- Ensuring procurement transparency and accountability.
- Evaluating the outcomes of Defence procurement projects.
- Measuring procurement performance and effectiveness.
- Identifying lessons learned and fostering continuous improvement.
- Integrating feedback into future procurement strategies.

Day 14: Defence Procurement Simulation and Case Studies

- Practical simulation of a Defence procurement scenario.
- Applying procurement concepts and skills in a realistic scenario.
- Requirements analysis and procurement planning.
- Supplier evaluation and source selection.
- Cost and risk evaluation.
- Contract negotiation and procurement decision-making.
- Managing challenges and unexpected changes.
- In-depth analysis of real-world Defence procurement cases.
- Learning from successful and challenging procurement projects.
- Extracting lessons and best practices from case studies.
- Debriefing and lessons learned from the simulation.

Day 15: Leadership, Capstone Project and Final Assessment

Leadership and Communication in Defence Procurement

- Effective leadership skills for Defence procurement managers.
- Communicating with stakeholders, teams, and decision-makers.
- Managing cross-functional procurement teams.
- Stakeholder engagement and relationship management.
- Leading change and building a culture of excellence in procurement.

Why Attend This Course: Wins & Losses!



- Gain an in-depth understanding of what procurement is, its processes, and best practices.
- Understand the complete Defence procurement lifecycle from requirements assessment through contract management and project evaluation.
- Enhance your skills in global procurement management and procurement compliance.
- Develop the expertise to navigate procurement risk management and Defence procurement challenges.
- Learn advanced procurement strategies and innovative approaches in the Defence sector.
- Strengthen your ability to evaluate suppliers, manage contracts, control costs, and ensure quality.
- Understand international Defence trade, collaboration, export controls, and offset programs.
- Develop practical decision-making and negotiation skills through simulations and case studies.
- Strengthen leadership and communication capabilities for managing Defence procurement stakeholders.
- Apply the complete learning journey through a practical capstone Defence procurement project.
- Exchange experiences with fellow professionals in a collaborative learning environment.

Conclusion

Mastering Defence procurement management is not just an option, but a necessity to ensure readiness and security in a constantly evolving global landscape. This 3-week training program offers participants the opportunity to understand what procurement management entails and how it impacts strategic Defence decisions.

By covering a wide range of concepts, tools, regulations, strategies, practical exercises, simulations, and case studies, participants will be equipped with the skills needed to excel in Defence procurement. Whether they are involved in managing large-scale Defence contracts, evaluating suppliers, controlling procurement costs, managing risks, or working on international collaborations, this program provides a strong foundation for successful and sustainable Defence procurement management.

